

Appl. No. 10/681,497  
Amdt. Dated June 19, 2006  
Reply to Office action of April 5, 2006

**INTERVIEW COMMENTS**

Applicant received Interview Summaries on interviews held on April 25, May 5, and May 25 and agrees that although attempts were diligently made to agree on the language of critical Claims 1 and 16, agreement was not reached.

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

OA Item 2: The Briggs reference is enclosed.

OA Item 3: Specification paragraphs 0015, 0016, and 0017 have been amended to eliminate all new material.

OA Item 4: The word "lignocellulosic" has been changed to "thermoplastic" in Claims 1 and 16; this language is identified in paragraph [0011] of the Specification.

The limits in Claims 2 and 17 have been returned to their original values.

The Applicant believes the enclosed amendments overcome the rejections identified in OA Items 2, 3, and 4 including the 35 USC §112 rejection.

OA Item 11: Applicant has enclosed a Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 stating the use of calcium borate as a WPC fungicide was conceived in July, 2000 and then reduced to practice in a timely manner. This Declaration is believed to be in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.116 (e) as the Examiner raised this issue in OA Item 11.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen G. Bales  
17 Hart Lane  
Sewell, NJ 08080